

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF SOUTH CAROLINA

CLERK'S OFFICE

NOTICE OF FILING AND HEARING AND PREFILE TESTIMONY DEADLINES

DOCKET NO. 2020-125-E

Application of Dominion Energy South Carolina, Inc. for Adjustment of Rates and Charges (*This filing includes a request for an increase to retail electric rates.) (See Commission Order No. 2020-313.)

On August 14, 2020, Dominion Energy South Carolina, Inc. ("DESC" or the "Company") filed an application with the Public Service Commission of South Carolina ("Commission") requesting certain proposed adjustments, changes, and increases in its rates, charges and tariffs for retail electric service (the "Application") with an effective filing date of August 15, 2020. The Application was filed pursuant to S. C. Code Ann. §§58-27-820, 58-27-860, and 58-27-870 (2015, as amended), Commission Regulation 103-823 (2012), and other applicable laws and rules.

According to the Application, the proposed rates and charges represent an overall increase in revenues of approximately \$178 million or 7.75%.

Costs associated with the abandoned V.C. Summer Units 2 & 3 construction project are not included in the rates requested in this Application.

At its August 26, 2020, Commission Business Meeting, the Commission issued a directive which stated, in part, "... Dominion shall maintain the historical test period as 12-months ended December 31, 2019, which is January 1, 2019, through December 31, 2019, and that Dominion is further required to update its historical test period results for known and measurable changes as of September 30, 2020."

DESC has not sought a rate increase for base electric rates since 2012 exclusive of changes in the fuel component and the recovery of costs and revenues associated with demand side management and energy efficiency programs and other rider-based charges. Since that time, DESC states in its Application that it has made continued investments in assets and operating resources required to serve an expanding customer base; to maintain the safety, reliability, and efficiency of its system; and to meet increasingly stringent reliability, security and environmental requirements. The Application also states the Company has experienced an increase in depreciation expense and property taxes associated with these investments. Also, the Application states that since the close of the prior test year, more than eight years ago, DESC's costs of providing retail electric service to its customers have increased. The Application also states the Consumer Price Index, as issued by the United States Department of Labor Bureau of Labor Statistics, shows producer prices have increased by approximately 14% since the close of the prior test year. As a result of these and other changes, which are set out in more detail in the Application, DESC states its current rates and charges are not sufficient to allow the Company a reasonable opportunity to recover its actual cost of providing electric service to customers including the cost of the debt and equity capital invested in the electric system.

**DOMINION RESIDENTIAL SERVICE - RATE 8
CURRENT AND PROPOSED RATE EXAMPLE**

	Current	Proposed
1000 kWh per month (Before Tax Rider)	\$126.18	\$131.99
1000 kWh per month (After Tax Rider)	\$122.31	N/A

The Application further proposes

- to create a vegetation management accrual to establish a stable basis for funding the vegetation control plans that are necessary to ensure resiliency in storms and protect the safe and reliable operation of DESC's distribution and transmission systems
- to restore collection of the Storm Damage Reserve component of rates
- to make certain changes in its General Terms and Conditions for Retail Electric Service
- to discontinue an experimental commercial rate, Rate 21A, Experimental Program – General Service Time-of Use Demand
- to revise and update the standards under Residential Rate 6 – Energy Saver/Conservation Rate

- to reduce the rate collected under its Demand Side Management program rider (DSM Rider) from the current rate of 0.00220 \$/kwh for residential customers to an adjusted rate of 0.00158 \$/kwh
- to discontinue the Tax Rider that was authorized in 2018 to return tax savings under the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 to customers. The Application proposes to return those savings to customers through base rates going forward.

DESC requests that if the evidence presented in the hearings and other proceedings so allows, that it be permitted to implement rates that differ and/or exceed those set forth in the Application. DESC requests that the proposed increase be effective for bills rendered on and after the first billing cycle of March, 2021.

If the Application or Petition in this case contains a request for adjustment of rates, the rates are subject to potential modification by the Commission during the course of this case.

A copy of the Company's Application can be found on the Commission's website at www.psc.sc.gov under Docket No. 2020-125-E. Additionally, a copy of the application is available from the office of K. Chad Burgess, Esquire and Matthew W. Gissendanner, Esquire, Dominion Energy South Carolina Inc., 220 Operation Way, MC C222, Cayce, South Carolina 29033.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a virtual hearing, pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 103-817 and S.C. Code Ann. §58-27-870, on the above matter has been scheduled to begin on **Tuesday, January 05, 2021, at 10:00 a.m.**, before the Commission for the purpose of receiving testimony and evidence from all interested parties. The hearing may continue through the remainder of the week of January 4, 2021, and the following week, if necessary.

Any person who wishes to participate in this matter as a party of record should file a Petition to Intervene in accordance with the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure on or before **September 30, 2020**, by filing the Petition to Intervene with the Commission, by providing a copy to the Office of Regulatory Staff and by providing a copy to all parties of record. For the receipt of future Commission correspondence, please include an email address in the Petition to Intervene. ***Please refer to Docket No. 2020-125-E and mail a copy to all other parties in this docket.*** Any person who seeks to intervene and who wishes to testify and present evidence at the hearing should notify, in writing, the Commission; the Office of Regulatory Staff at 1401 Main Street, Suite 900, Columbia, South Carolina 29201; and the Company at the above address, on or before **September 30, 2020**. ***Please refer to Docket No. 2020-125-E.***

Any person who wishes to request that the Commission hold a virtual public night hearing in order to hear comments from the utility's customers, should notify, in writing, the Commission; the Office of Regulatory Staff at 1401 Main Street, Suite 900, Columbia, South Carolina 29201; and the Company at the above address, on or before **Wednesday, October 14, 2020**.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ALL PARTIES OF RECORD (Applicant, Petitioners, and Intervenors only):

****** On or before **12/29/2020**, please provide the order of witnesses to be presented during the hearing and whether there is an objection to taking direct and rebuttal or surrebuttal testimony together during the hearing. ******

All Parties of Record must prefile testimony with the Commission and with all Parties of Record. Prefiled Testimony Deadlines: Applicant's **Direct Testimony** Due: **10/5/2020**; Other Parties of Record **Direct Testimony** Due: **11/10/2020**; Applicant's **Rebuttal Testimony** Due: **11/30/2020**; and Other Parties of Record **Surrebuttal Testimony** Due: **12/15/2020**. All prefiled testimony deadlines are subject to the information as posted on www.psc.sc.gov under ***Docket No. 2020-125-E***.

For the most recent information regarding this docket, including changes in scheduled dates included in this Notice, please refer to www.psc.sc.gov and ***Docket No. 2020-125-E***.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that any person who wishes to have his or her comments considered as part of the official record of this proceeding **MUST** present such comments in person to the Commission during the hearing.

Persons seeking information about the Commission's procedures should contact the Commission at (803) 896-5100 or visit its website at www.psc.sc.gov.

8/28/20